

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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August 23, 2022

Julie Regan, TRPA External Affairs Chief
PO Box 5310
Stateline, NV 89449
VIA Email jregan@trpa.gov

Dear Ms. Regan,

I am writing to thank you and Dr. Miller for your April 12, 2022, presentation to the Board of Supervisors about regional transit in the Tahoe Basin. As most interested parties will agree, transportation is essential to the Tahoe area's economy, and an efficient regional transportation system is a key component of livability for year-round residents and to keeping the area attractive to visitors.

The 2020 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is an ambitious undertaking and will, if it is to be successful, require support and funding from a wide range of stakeholders. Our Board members have been contacted by individuals with concerns for how local businesses and residents could be negatively impacted and carry the burden of several of the proposed funding mechanisms outlined in the November 30, 2021, public draft of the Lake Tahoe Sustainable Transportation Funding Initiative. While we appreciate that the Funding Initiative explores many new and creative revenue generating sources, such as a Vacancy Tax, Basin Entry Transportation User Fee, and Zonal Transportation Fee, several of these new revenue streams will require action by both the California and Nevada legislature and/or voter approval with a 2/3 majority. With the current rise in inflation and the desire to support lower- and middle-income residents who struggle daily with the cost of living in the Tahoe Basin, it is questionable as to whether legislators or the voters will support additional fees and taxes to mitigate the impacts of tourists.

The June 15, 2022, Staff Report from TRPA Staff to the TRPA Governing Board references the 7-7-7 funding strategy and states, “This 7-7-7 strategy was endorsed by the Bi-State Consultation, the Tahoe Transportation District Board of Directors, and is currently being brought forward to the local government partners for formal endorsement. Placer County has already committed to the 7-7-7 strategy via a Board of Supervisors resolution, and we expect additional local government support over the coming months.” Before our Board of Supervisors can take a position on any of these proposals, we will need additional information relative to how they will be implemented, the timing of the implementation, and the impacts to El Dorado County businesses and residents in the Tahoe Basin as well as El Dorado County employees who commute to the Basin for work.

We look forward to additional updates on your progress of this ambitious effort.

Sincerely,

Lori Parlin, Chair
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

cc: TRPA Governing Board VIA Email trpa@trpa.gov